

Germans Begin New Offensive Movement in East Prussia

tion in respect of the relation between this country and Germany which might be the German navy's policy in carrying out the policy of the admiralty's proclamation, to destroy any merchant vessel of the United States or cause the death of American citizens.

"It is, of course, not necessary to remind the German government that the sole right of a belligerent in dealing with neutral vessels on the high seas is limited to visit and search, unless a blockade is proclaimed and effectively maintained, which this government does not understand to be proposed in this case. To declare or exercise a right to attack and destroy any vessel entering a prescribed area of the high seas without first certainly determining its belligerent nationality and the character of its cargo would be an act so unprecedented in naval warfare that this government is reluctant to believe that the Imperial government of Germany in this case contemplates it as possible. The suspicion that enemy ships are using neutral flags improperly can create no just presumption that all ships traversing a prescribed area are subject to the same suspicion. It is to determine exactly such questions that this government has the right of visit and search to have been recognized.

NOT OPEN TO CHALLENGE
OF UNNEUTRAL ACTION
This government has carefully noted the explanatory statement issued by the Imperial government of Germany at the same time with the proclamation of the German admiralty, and takes this occasion to remind the Imperial German government very respectfully that the government of the United States is open to none of the criticism of unneutral action to which the German government believe the governments of certain other neutral nations have laid themselves open. That the government of the United States has not consented to or acquiesced in any measures which may have been taken by the other belligerent nations in the present war which operate to restrict neutral trade, but has, on the contrary, taken in all such matters a position which warrants it in holding those governments responsible for the proper way for any outward effects of the American shipping which the accepted principles of international law do not justify, and that it, therefore, regards as its free in the present instance, to take with a clear conscience, and upon accepted principles, the position indicated in this note.

"If the commanders of German vessels of war should act upon the presumption that the flag of the United States was not being used in good faith, and should destroy on the high seas an American vessel or the lives of American citizens, it would be difficult for the government of the United States to view the act in any other light than as an indefensible violation of neutral rights, which it would be bound immediately to redress in the friendly relations now so happily subsisting between the two governments.

WOULD HOLD GERMANY TO STRICT ACCOUNTABILITY
"If such a deplorable situation should arise, the Imperial German government can readily appreciate that the government of the United States would be constrained to hold the Imperial German government to a strict accountability for such acts of their authorities, and to take any steps it might be necessary to take to safeguard American lives and property and to secure to American citizens the full enjoyment of their acknowledged rights on the high seas.

"The government of the United States, in view of these conditions, which it urges with the greatest respect and with the sincere purpose of making sure that no misunderstanding may arise, and no circumstances may occur that might even cloud the intercourse of the two governments, expresses the confident hope and expectation that the Imperial German government can and will give assurances that American citizens and their vessels will not be molested by the naval forces of Germany otherwise than by visit and search, though the vessels may be traversing the sea area delimited in the proclamation of the German Admiralty.

"It is added for the information of the Imperial German government, that the Imperial German government in respect to the unwarranted use of the American flag for the protection of British ships.

NOTE FOR PRESENTATION TO BRITISH GOVERNMENT

"February 10, 1915.
The Secretary of State has instructed Ambassador Page at London to present to the British government a note to the following effect:
"The department has been advised of the declaration of the German admiralty on February 4 indicating that the British government had on January 31 explicitly prohibited the use of neutral flags on British merchant vessels, presumably for the purpose of avoiding recognition by German naval forces. The department's attention has also been directed to reports in the press that the captain of the Lusitania, acting upon orders or information received from the British authorities, approached the British ship in order to escape anticipated attacks by German submarines. Today's press reports also contain an alleged official statement of the British Foreign Office regarding the use of the American flag by a belligerent vessel in order to escape capture or attack by an enemy."

"Assuming that the foregoing reports are true, the government of the United States, reserving for future consideration the legality and propriety of neutral powers in the use of a flag of avoiding capture for the purpose of avoiding capture, desires very respectfully to point out to His Britannic Majesty's government the serious American vessel, which may result in an explicit recognition of the fact that this practice is continued.

JEOPARDIZES VESSELS OF NEUTRAL POWERS
"The occasional use of the flag of a neutral or an enemy under the stress of an immediate pursuit and to deceive an approaching enemy, which appears by the press reports to be repeated as the precedent and justification used to support this action, seems to this government a very different thing from an explicit recognition of the fact that the government of the United States generally to fly the flag of a neutral power in certain portions of the high seas, which are presumed to be frequented with hostile warships. The formal declaration of a neutral policy of general misuse of a neutral flag jeopardizes the vessels of the neutral nations in a peculiar degree by raising the suspicion that they are of belligerent nationality, regardless of the flag which they may carry.

In view of the announced purpose of the German admiralty to engage in active naval operations in certain delimited sea areas adjacent to the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland, the government of the United States would not with anxious solicitude any general use of the flag of the United States

by British vessels traversing those waters. A policy such as the one which His Majesty's government is said to intend to adopt, would, if the declaration of the German admiralty be put in force, it seems clear, afford no protection to British vessels, while it would be a serious and constant menace to the lives and vessels of American citizens.

ASKS RESTRAINT IN DECEPTIVE USE OF AMERICAN FLAG

"The government of the United States, in view of the fact that His Majesty's government will do all in their power to restrain vessels of British nationality from the deceptive use of the flag of the United States in the sea area delimited in the German declaration, since such practice would greatly endanger the vessels of a friendly power navigating those waters, and would even seem to impose upon the government of Great Britain a measure of responsibility of the loss of American lives and vessels in case of an attack by a German naval force.

"You may add that this government is making earnest representations to the German government in regard to the danger to American vessels and citizens if the declaration of the German admiralty is put into effect."

JOHN L. WILLIAMS DIES AT RIPE AGE
(Continued from First Page.)

to his liking, he gave it up and entered the banking house of John A. Lancaster & Son, in Richmond, financial agents of the Confederate States. After the war he established a banking house of his own, and later, with his sons, John L. Williams & Sons, E. L. Bemiss, his firm took its present title, John L. Williams & Sons. The firm held in the refunding of the debt of South Carolina, established the Georgia and Alabama Railway and the Seaboard Air Line, and has been instrumental in reorganizing and re-establishing the city railways and other institutions in Richmond, Petersburg, Norfolk, Augusta, Macon, Nashville, and Knoxville, as well as in Baltimore and New York.

WAS MAN OF BROAD AND LIBERAL CULTURE
Mr. Williams was a man of broad culture and of considerable literary attainment. He was a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and in the councils of his church he had for many years exerted a wholesome and beneficial influence. For nearly fifty years he was treasurer of the Diocesan Missionary Society, for nearly forty years he represented his church in the diocesan council, and he was twice a delegate to the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He was president of the Southern Churchman Company; president of the Virginia Bible Society; president of the Richmond Male Orphan Society; treasurer of the United States Orphan Society; president of the Virginia School for Colored Deaf and Blind Children, and was president of the Memorial Hospital, which was founded through the generosity of his family. Always a loyal alumnus of the University of Virginia, he made many gifts of money, books and portraits to the University. The portraits of Chief Justice Marshall and of Commodore Maury and a tablet of principles that adorn the library at the university are gifts from his hand.

ABLE BIBLICAL AND SHAKESPEAREAN SCHOLAR
Mr. Williams was of a literary and philosophic turn of mind, and for many years he was a weekly contributor to The Times, The Dispatch and the News Leader, entitled "Observations," etc., and "A Little Philosophy," always attracted interest. He was considered one of the ablest biblical and Shakespearean scholars in the South. He was a member of the William and Mary Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity. In 1908 Washington and Lee University awarded him the degree of doctor of letters. On October 13, 1904, Mr. Williams married Maria Ward Skelton, an only child of John Skelton, who was a member of the William and Mary Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity. In 1908 Washington and Lee University awarded him the degree of doctor of letters. On October 13, 1904, Mr. Williams married Maria Ward Skelton, an only child of John Skelton, who was a member of the William and Mary Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity. In 1908 Washington and Lee University awarded him the degree of doctor of letters. On October 13, 1904, Mr. Williams married Maria Ward Skelton, an only child of John Skelton, who was a member of the William and Mary Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity.

Mr. Williams was a man of charity and keen in his interest in the welfare of his countrymen. Many were his own blessings, and from them he gave largely to those who turned to him for help.

Shot Through Breast.
J. S. Wilson, R. F. D. No. 1, was brought to the Retreat for the Sick last night suffering from a pistol shot wound through the left breast. He is said to have shot himself. No explanation for the act could be offered by his wife at the hospital last night. The man's condition is regarded as grave.

Whittier's Condition Improved.
Robert Whittier, Jr., chairman of the Administration Board, who is ill at Grace Hospital, suffering from intestinal trouble, was last night reported as being somewhat improved. He is said to have spent a good day and to be in excellent spirits. His physician, Dr. H. Stuart MacLean, is of the opinion that his recovery will be slow, but steady.

Mining Company Declares Dividend.
BOSTON, February 11.—Directors of the Calumet and Hecla Mining Company to-day declared a quarterly dividend of \$5 a share. The quarterly payment was made last June. Dividends in September and December being passed.

Committee Lacks Information.
The Council Committee on Dock, River and Harbor work, last night, adjourned without taking up business. Certain information, which the committee desired, was not on hand at this time, and it was then decided to adjourn the meeting until this information could be procured.

Council Considers.
A special meeting of the Common Council last night, the amended segregation ordinance, designed to check the further encroachment of negroes into a disintegrating white neighborhood, was considered. On motion of Mr. English, the ordinance was read at length, and was then passed. Any other business was taken up, and the body adjourned.

WHAT WARRING NATIONS CLAIM IN THEIR OFFICIAL STATEMENTS

French
PARIS, February 11.—The French War Office this afternoon issued this official communication:

"Along all of the front yesterday as far as Champagne there were artillery exchanges. In the northern region there were several aeroplane exhibitions on our part as well as on the part of the enemy. The projectiles dropped by the aeroplanes of the enemy fell within our lines.

"In Champagne a German attack against our position in the forest to the north of Meudon-les-Hurlus, recently occupied by us, was repulsed.

"In the Argonne, the fighting in the vicinity of the Maria Theresa earthworks has been very violent. According to the latest reports received here, the German forces amount to about one brigade. We have maintained all our positions. The losses of the enemy are considerable and ours are serious.

"In the Vosges there has been a thick fog and abundant snow. It was during a very dark night that there occurred the infantry engagement reported yesterday at La Fontenelle, in the Ban-de-Sapt. The Germans had the least two battalions of troops present. After having receded some ground, our troops recaptured everything they gave up. This was during the day of February 10, and it was accomplished by a series of counterattacks.

The following official communication was issued by the War Office to-night:

"The enemy has strongly bombarded Neuport and the banks of the Yser, but has not done material damage. Our artillery has responded effectively.

"In the Argonne, in the region of Bagatelle, after a violent struggle with lance and bombs, which continued throughout the morning, a German attack was delivered at 1 o'clock in the afternoon against the earthworks of Marie Theresa.

"It was carried out in line by columns of four, along 500 metres of the front, but was broken down by our artillery and infantry fire. The enemy left a great number of dead.

"In the Vosges, south of the Chateau-de-Lusse, and north of the Col-de-Santa Marie, in a sudden attack, we occupied a German trench. On several parts of the front there have been spirited artillery engagements."

German
BERLIN, February 11 (by wireless via London).—At the War Office to-day the following statement was issued:

"In the western theatre of war an attack in the Argonne resulted in a gain of ground for us. Six officers, 307 men, two machine guns and six small cannon were captured. In the central and southern Vosges we also gained a few small local successes.

"Eastern theatre: On the East Prussian frontier engagements were continued yesterday, with results which were altogether satisfactory to us, although they were hindered by the movements of our troops. The result of these engagements cannot yet be seen.

"In the Polish theatre, on the right bank of the Vistula, an advance brought us into the district northwest of Sierpe, through which our opponents were repulsed. One hundred prisoners were taken.

"On the left bank of the Vistula there were no special incidents."

Russian

PETROGRAD, February 11.—The following statement from the general staff of the Russian commander-in-chief was made public to-night:

"It has been definitely established that the Germans are concentrating very great forces in East Prussia. These forces have started an offensive which they are developing, especially in the direction of Wilkowszki (north of Augustow) and Lyck.

"The presence is reported of units composed of new recruits from Central Germany.

"Our troops, keeping the enemy in check, are retiring from the Mazurian Lakes toward our frontier.

"On the right bank of the Vistula some small encounters have taken place in the direction of Wloclawek, toward Ostrolenka, and in the region of Serpiz, on the Skwa River.

"On the left bank of the Vistula there have been only cannonades.

"In the Carpathians the enemy attacked to the west of Mezolaborch, in the direction of Jablonow, to the east of the Ussol Pass. We repulsed all these attacks and also a German offensive on the heights of Kozlowka.

"We seized the heights near Rabbe, east of Lupkow Pass, after a violent fight, and captured as many as 1,000 prisoners."

SPANISH MINISTER CARO EXPELLED BY CARRANZA

Ordered to Leave Mexico Within Twenty-Four Hours From Midnight of February 10.

NOW ON HIS WAY TO VERA CRUZ

American Battleship Delaware Lies in Harbor There With Instructions to Offer Him Refuge—Deportation May Cause Complications.

WASHINGTON, February 11.—Jose Caro, Spanish minister to Mexico, has been summarily expelled from Mexico by General Carranza. To-night he was believed to be on his way to Vera Cruz, where the American battleship Delaware lies in the harbor, with instructions to offer him a refuge.

News that the minister had been given twenty-four hours from last midnight to leave Mexico because he is alleged to have sheltered Angel de Caso, a Spanish subject, accused of aiding Villa, came to the State Department late to-day.

After hurried conferences between Secretary Bryan and the Spanish and Brazilian ambassadors here, Secretary of the Navy Daniels called Captain Rodgers, of the Delaware, to take Minister Caro on board and await orders. Consul Canada at Vera Cruz was directed to give the minister every assistance.

When Minister Caro received Carranza's notice he immediately prepared to start for Vera Cruz, expecting to sail for Havana to await instructions from his government. An American warship will take him to Cuba, unless a merchant ship bound that way puts in at Vera Cruz within a day or two.

While Carranza's note explained to the minister that no offense was intended against the Spanish government or people, the right of asylum to nationals of a foreign government is a long-established rule, and the deportation of a diplomat for granting this right, it was suggested in diplomatic circles here to-night, might result in serious complications.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ARE FINED FOR TRESPASS

They Appeal Case, Which Is Removed to Federal Court, and Interesting Battle Is Expected.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
ROANOKE, VA., February 11.—Parching points are involved in a case docketed for trial next week in the Federal court here, and there is a possibility that the Attorney-General of the State will appear as a prosecuting advocate.

In December, Deputy Marshal Ben W. Gardner, Deputy Collector J. H. Reed, Special Employee H. G. Stultz and two policemen, hunting a illicit still in Franklin County, rode across a wheat field owned by Peach Dotson. A warrant charging criminal trespass was sworn out against the officers, and after a hearing before a justice of the peace of Franklin County, a fine of \$5 each was assessed against the revenue men.

The case was appealed to the Circuit Court of Franklin County, and later was removed to the Federal Court at Roanoke on the ground that a Federal question is involved in the right of United States internal revenue officers to commit trespass when done under cover of authority.

NEW PLAN PUT FORWARD TO SAVE SHIPPING BILL

Compromise Is Designed to Extricate Measure From Deadlock and Avert Extra Session.

PROPOSAL BY HOUSE LEADERS

Adjournment of Senate Advances Determination of Democrats to Force Closure Rule and End Determined Filibuster.

WASHINGTON, February 11.—A compromise proposal, designed to extricate the administration ship-purchase bill from the deadlock that has blocked its passage in the Senate and to avert an extra session, was put forward to-night by House Democrats through Representative Kitchin, of North Carolina, chosen majority leader of the next House.

The new plan, which proposes the passage of the shipping bill as a temporary emergency measure, was developed at conferences on the House side of the Capitol, while the Senate was in session, with both opponents and supporters of the measure appearing for advantage. An adjournment of the Senate to-night advanced the plans of the Democratic leaders to force a closure rule that would end the determined filibuster.

As announced by Representative Kitchin, the compromise contemplates passage through the House next week with an amendment that would terminate the government's activities in the shipping business two years after the close of the European war. Despite President Wilson's announced determination to stand by the Senate bill in its present form, Representative Kitchin said, House leaders, anxious to avoid an extra session, proposed to put this amendment before the Senate and give the President an opportunity to accept it in the event of the failure of the pending bill.

TO BUY LAND IN VIRGINIA

National Forest Reservation Commission Approves Purchase.

WASHINGTON, February 11.—The National Forest Reservation Commission has approved purchase of 35,370 acres, in addition to the 1,114,208 acres already approved for national forests in the Southern Appalachians and the White Mountains of New England. The land consists of 10,533 acres in Virginia and 12,867 acres in North Carolina and 11,970 acres in New Hampshire. The total amount of money involved is \$223,035.

SOUTHERN DEFERS ACTION

Directors Do Not Declare Usual Semi-annual Dividend.

NEW YORK, February 11.—Directors of the Southern Railway at their regular monthly meeting to-day deferred the action on the semiannual dividend on the preferred stock usually declared at this time.

KAISER AGAIN GOES TO EASTERN WAR FRONT

BERLIN (via Amsterdam to London), Feb. 12 (3:02 A. M.)—It is officially announced that Emperor William again has left for the eastern war front.

GREAT BRITAIN SEIZES CARGO OF WILHELMINA

Action Is in Accordance With Decision of Foreign Office—Goes to Prize Court.

STATE DEPARTMENT WATCHFUL

Case Will Be Allowed to Take Normal Course, but Proceedings Will Be Carefully Observed—Findings Not Necessarily Binding.

FALMOUTH, February 11 (via London).—The cargo of the American steamer Wilhelmina was seized by British authorities here to-day, in accordance with the decision of the Foreign Office. The cargo is to go to a prize court.

CASE WILL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE NORMAL COURSE

WASHINGTON, February 11.—The State Department has concluded the Wilhelmina case must be allowed to take a normal course, which involves going to a prize court, because of the issue raised by the British contention that Germany has justified seizure of the cargo by its commerce appropriating the home grain supply.

The St. Louis commission house owning the cargo, and perhaps the Wilhelmina's owners, will be represented by counsel before the court, but the State Department will content itself at present by instructing the American ambassador at London to observe the progress of the case carefully.

The decision of the prize court is not necessarily binding upon the United States, and it may be made the subject of a protest and diplomatic negotiations.

OWNERS GET ASSURANCE FROM STATE DEPARTMENT

NEW YORK, February 11.—Marvin R. Lindheim, of counsel for the Wilhelmina's cargo owners, said to-day he had received assurances from the State Department that, in the event the English prize court decision is, "in the judgment of our government, not supported by evidence or warranted by our construction of the law, our government will make protest."

The owners had been advised, he said, by Secretary Bryan that they had a perfect right to make the shipment, and that the State Department had full knowledge of all the facts.

CITY MADE GOOD RECORD, DESPITE CALAMITY YEAR
(Continued from First Page.)

5,000,000 tons a year for twenty-five or thirty years.

According to this expert, a plant could be established in the Richmond coal field that would yield 1,500 to 2,000 tons a day. Without disrespect to the Virginia coal field, which has been employed in the local coal field, said Mr. Reed, this expert asserts that the methods they employed were comparatively primitive, and that the introduction of the latest mining methods and machinery alone is needed to demonstrate the value of the Richmond coal field.

"I should consider myself remiss in the face of such evidence," said Mr. Reed, "if I did not give it publicity, and I recommend the reference of the letter, and the important matter to which it refers, to the consideration of the chamber's committee on mines for investigation and report, coal being a basic feature in industrial development of ever-increasing value and importance."

ADDRESS BIG FEATURE

Mr. Reed's address was the central feature of the annual meeting, which received with hearty applause by the 300 members that came to the Jefferson Hotel Auditorium last night to take part in the chamber's big annual occasion. On the platform with Mr. Reed, this expert asserts that the methods they employed were comparatively primitive, and that the introduction of the latest mining methods and machinery alone is needed to demonstrate the value of the Richmond coal field.

Following its time-honored practice of re-electing for a second term the presiding officer, the membership unanimously re-elected W. T. Reed to serve as president of the chamber during the ensuing year. All the other major officers were likewise unanimously re-elected. These are:

E. C. Laird, first vice-president; Coleman Worthington, second vice-president; R. A. Dunlop, secretary; F. D. Dabney, treasurer; and W. T. Dabney, business manager. Traffic Manager E. S. Goodman is not an elective officer, but retains his position permanently under direction of the Inland Trade Committee.

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBLE

The constitution of the chamber requires the dropping every year of ten of the twenty-five members that compose the board of directors, and the election of ten new men in their places. President Reed appointed a nominating committee of five, consisting of L. Z. Morris, chairman, W. T. Carrington, Edgar Taylor, F. D. Williams and H. Funsten. The committee reported the names of ten new men for election to the board of directors. The report was adopted unanimously.

The new members of the board are: W. Frank Powers, J. Scott Parrish, George W. Stevens, A. O. Swink, Dr. Stuart McGuire, B. W. Wilson, I. J.

CELESTINS VICHY

(FRENCH REPUBLIC PROPERTY)

NOTICE

Regarding SPLITS

SPLITS have now been placed on the market and should be asked for at all first-class Bars and Restaurants.

ASK FOR

CELESTINS

SEVERE RHEUMATIC PAINS DISAPPEAR

Rheumatism depends on an acid which flows in the blood, affecting the muscles and joints, producing inflammation, stiffness and pain. This acid gets into the blood through some defect in the digestive processes, and remains there because the liver, kidneys and skin are too torpid to carry it off. Hood's Sarsaparilla, the old-time blood tonic, is very successful in the treatment of rheumatism. It acts directly, with purifying effect, on the blood, and throws the blood on the liver, kidneys and skin, which it stimulates, and at the same time it improves the digestion. Get Hood's Sarsaparilla to-day. Sold by all druggists.—Adv.



OVERCOATS, TOO.

Just a little February house cleaning—Blue and fancy chevies, sizes 10 to 17, at \$5.85; were \$8 and \$8.50. Overcoats in the loose, roomy style the boys like, \$4.85 to \$8.85; were \$7.50 to \$12.

\$7.00 Suits now... \$4.85
\$12.00 Suits now... \$8.85

Sizes run easy and full—ample room for growth and still a fit next winter!

ALBERT STEIN
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CHILDREN'S SCHOOL SHOES \$1

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If you want to make a bit with your girl give her a Diamond Ring. It will surely please her and make you feel good, too. To have gotten in a beautiful lot of stones and can give you a bargain.

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Let Others Dream If They Will--YOU Decide For Independence--For Action

Money in the pocket is easily spent—money in the bank is easily saved. And as your account grows you'll take a great deal of pride in its possession. Decide to-day to make the start. Open an account with the

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—these are the cardinal features upon which is built the confidence extended to us.

For the most artistic design symbolizing these qualities, one suitable for our use, we will give as

A Prize of \$50 In Gold

Any one is eligible. The only conditions are that each sketch bear the full name and address of the sender and that the sketch reach us not later than April 15, 1915.

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Capital, \$1,000,000—Surplus, \$1,000,000.